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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/706,264	11/12/2003	Sun Zhao You	A3-323 US	6865
23683	7590	03/10/2005	EXAMINER	
MOLEX INCORPORATED 2222 WELLINGTON COURT LISLE, IL 60532			HAMMOND, BRIGGITTE R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2833	

DATE MAILED: 03/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/706,264	Applicant(s) YOU, SUN ZHAO	
	Examiner Brigitte R. Hammond	Art Unit 2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 November 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 12-17 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of: .
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

In the last Office Action the Examiner inadvertently processed the wrong set of claims, (see applicants remarks), therefore the last office action is hereby withdrawn, following is an action on the merits.

Information Disclosure Statement

The listing of references in the specification is not a proper information disclosure statement. 37 CFR 1.98(b) requires a list of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office, and MPEP § 609 A(1) states, "the list may not be incorporated into the specification but must be submitted in a separate paper." Therefore, unless the references have been cited by the examiner on form PTO-892, they have not been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1,7 and 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Schell et al. 6,231,394. Schell et al discloses an electrical connector 14 comprising a dielectric housing 12 having a top mating face, a bottom face for mounting on a circuit board and a plurality of terminal-receiving passages 28,30 extending between the faces; a plurality of conductive terminals 16 mounted on the housing and each terminal

including a base 16.4 mounted in a respective one of the passages in the housing, a solder tail 16.6 extending from one end of the base for connection to an appropriate circuit trace on the circuit board, and a contact portion 16.2 extending from an opposite end of the base and exposed at the mating face of the housing for engaging an appropriate contact of a complementary connecting device; and said housing including a plurality of holding slots 30 at the bottom face thereof for receiving the solder tails of the terminals with interference fits to rigidly fix the solder tails to the housing.

Regarding claim 7, Schell et al. discloses the terminals including at least one interference portion 16.4z for engaging a side wall of a respective passage with an interference fit.

Regarding claim 9, Schell et al. discloses the terminals are formed of sheet metal material, and each terminal 16 is generally u-shaped to define a pair of legs joined by a bent portion (at 24) of the terminal, one-leg defining said base and the opposite leg defining a spring arm 16.3 bent back over the base and having said contact portion 16.2 thereon.

Regarding claim 10, Schell et al. discloses the terminal is formed at a distal end of said one leg which defines the base, and the contact portion of each U-shaped terminal is formed as a contact dome projecting from one side of said opposite leg which defines said spring arm.

Regarding claim 11, Schell et al. discloses complementary interengaging stop means 16.1 between the housing and a distal end of said spring arm to limit the degree of flexing of the arm.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5,6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schell et al. in view of Wu 5,879,169. Regarding claim 5, Schell et al. discloses the invention substantially as claimed. Schell et al. does not disclose each of said holding slots having an elevated platform on which a respective solder tail is positioned. However, Wu discloses the holding slots having an elevated platform 42 on which a respective solder tail is positioned. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to modify the connector of Schell et al. by providing an elevated platform to position the solder tails as taught by Wu.

Regarding claim 6, Schell et al. does not disclose the housing having cut-out areas between adjacent slots. However, Wu discloses the housing having cut-out areas 22 between adjacent slots (fig. 3). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to modify the connector Schell et al. by providing cut-out areas between adjacent slots as taught by Wu for assisting to guide (keying) the contact into the slot.

Regarding claim 8, Schell et al. discloses the invention substantially as claimed. Schell et al. does not disclose a pair of interference portions in the form of wings projecting from opposite edges of the base. However, Wu discloses an electrical

connector 10 having terminals 16 with a pair of interference portions 20 in the form of wings projecting from opposite edges of the base. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to modify the connector Schell et al. by providing a pair of interference portions for an interference fit as taught by Wu.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 12-17 are allowed.

Claims 2-4 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: regarding claims 2 and 12, patentability resides, at least in part, in the housing having slots having a pair of opposite inner side walls having inwardly projecting opposing interference members having rounded engaging surfaces for engaging opposite side edges of the respective solder tails, in combination with the other limitations of the base claim.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brigitte R. Hammond whose telephone number is 571-272-2006. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thurs. and Alternate Fridays from 7:30-5:0000.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext. 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Brigitte R. Hammond

March 7, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brigitte R. Hammond", written in a cursive style.